

## "Conspicuous Care"

A recognition of our 2012 Employees of the Quarter and the Employee of the Year



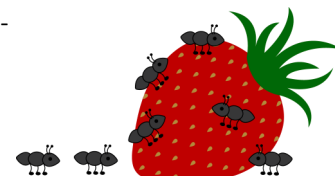
Congratulations to Thelma Hickman, Director of Environmental Services at RPW/JTC, for being named EMSH Employee of the Year for 2012. Thelma first came to EAST MS STATE HOSPITAL in 1972 and worked in the Laundry. During our research of the Laundry's history for the May 1<sup>st</sup> Open House, we interviewed Minnie Carter, a retired Laundry employee who remembered Thelma jumping in one of the industrial dryers and asking to "be given a spin." Someone actually fulfilled her wish, and the story became a memory not to be forgotten. Such a tale could actually have been told last week and it would have been believed for Thelma has a zest for life, for EMSH, and for everyone she comes in contact with. She is one of a kind. Since 1975, she has worked in Environmental Services with the Nursing Home Division. She retired for a brief time at the turn of the century, but within months, she was back on the payroll full-time, and for almost four decades she has dedicated herself to making sure that the residents of RPW and JTC have a home that looks, feels, and smells like HOME! Thelma remarks that Mr. Carlisle's being named Director of the Hospital has been the highlight of her time spent at EMSH.

Joining Thelma at a FRIENDS sponsored luncheon held on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup> were 2012 Employees of the Quarter, Cephus McMillian (BASAC), Larry Wilson (Laundry), Beverly Gaddis (JTC), Arlene Edwards (CDU/MCU), Emily Pope (2 North), Tommy Smith (BASAC), Dorothy Conner (RPW), Melissa Brewster (IP/EH), Mae Boyd (JTC), and Tyrone Hersey, BASAC, as well as the people who nominated them. JoAnn Cole from 2 North was unable to attend. Prior to the announcement of Employee of the Year, Mr. Carlisle introduced each honoree, his or her nominator, and Department/Division Directors, inviting all to speak. The midday gathering was festive and poignant as the eleven Employees of the Quarter shared why they do

what they do, and the nominators shared why they felt compelled to recognize the commitment and work ethic of these outstanding employees.

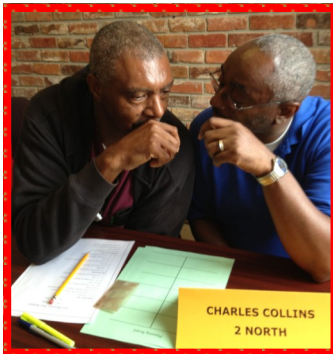


When it was time for the tab to be delivered, David and Brad, the two servers assigned to the group, announced that 14.5 gallons of sweet tea had been consumed by 22 people, a record for a specialty luncheon at Weidmann's! Such news put a great ending to an exclusive day for some elite people. Indeed, **how sweet it is** to be recognized by your peers.



# "I'M LISTENING, BUT I CAN'T HEAR YOU!"

....a communication quote by Charles Collins, 2 North



## BIRTHDAYS

**16th** ~ Deborah Cherry  
Housekeeping  
**16th** ~ Aaron Salunguit  
Campus Police  
**16th** ~ Candy Davidson  
3 South  
**17th** ~ Breyatta Harper  
Lewis 2  
**17th** ~ Lenora Perry  
RPWNF  
**18th** ~ Mary Beaty  
Resource Review  
**18th** ~ Veronica Moore  
LPN  
**19th** ~ Lynn Garrett  
Director's Office  
**19th** ~ Vincent McElhenney  
Professional Development  
**21st** ~ Levorn Evans  
Residential Living  
**24th** ~ Skye Tindall  
CDU  
**25th** ~ Alicia Nobles  
Mailroom  
**25th** ~ Tina Clearman  
2 North  
**25th** ~ Vonda Osby  
Residential Living  
**28th** ~ Nicholas Reed  
Residential Living  
**28th** ~ Beverly Gaddis  
JTCNF  
**29th** ~ Deondra` Johnson  
Maintenance  
**29th** ~ Deonte` Johnson  
Maintenance  
**30th** ~ Raymond Brewster  
3 South, CDU  
**31st** ~ Curtis Jones  
Social Services Executive

Without a doubt, communication is the key element to successfully working with others; however, in order for communication to be effective, the "art" of communicating is a work in progress. Here at East MS State Hospital, employees are able to fine-tune their communication skills through Professional Development trainings and In-Services such as the Mandt classes attended annually. In addition, specialized trainings are on-going in Professional Development allowing employees the opportunities for advancement within the workplace. One such training is the recently completed Direct Care Worker Advanced (DCWA) class that has prepared twelve co-workers for progression to supervisory positions. Carolyn Bourrage, Charles Collins, Louise Conner, Victor Coppins, Adam Delk, Antonio Mosely, Marguerite Odom, Lula Randolph, Nicholas Reed, Shontonio Smoot, Tavaris Thomas, and Roscoe Tucker were recommended by their supervisors for the DCWA class based on recognized leadership skills, the ability to work with others, and the positive attitudes that each of the twelve has displayed with fellow employees, and more importantly, with those they serve. The intense one week course definined what a supervisor is and what it takes to move into that position.

Based on the Mission statement and core values of East MS State Hospital, DCWA training elevates the call to serve "on the floor." Class participants come from the front line of duty and they are totally aware that an advancement to a supervisory position will demand taking more responsibility than currently required. This June 2013 class was an exemplary one, and on their graduation day, the supervisors who recommended them, were beyond proud. James Kelly, who supervises 2 North's Charles Collins, Louise Conner and Nicholas Reed watched intently as his employees nailed their presentations on the week's offerings. Jimmie Butler, who recently transferred from BASAC to Community Services, was on hand to witness the presentations of both Carolyn Bourrage and Lula Randolph as well as BASAC's Shontonio Smoot. Roy McKenzie of Professional Development challenged all by saying, "Use what we have given you and don't let this training stop." Perhaps the most proud of the group was Sabine Barnes, Director of Professional Development. She summed up the accolades of all when she looked at the participants and revised the popular Nike catch-phrase *Just Do It* to "**Y'ALL DID IT!**"



## CALENDAR

### Fire & Safety Training

Room E112

July 15, 2013

2-4 pm

July 16th

9-11 am

July 23rd

9-11 am

July 25th

2-4 pm

July 22nd

Retirement Awards

2:00 p.m.

Recreation Building

July 31st

Meridian Day at the Fair



Congratulations to all who have not only completed the most recently held DCWA class, but also to those who, through this training, have been elevated to the positions you hold today.

